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DOCKET NO. 1849

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BEFORE THE JUDICIAL PANEL ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

IN RE C.H. ROBINSON WORLDWIDE, INC., OVERTIME PAYLITIGATION

BEFORE WM. TERRELL HODGES, CHAIRMAN, D. LOWELL JENSEN, J. FREDERICK MOTZ, ROBERT L. MILLER, JR.,* KATHRYN H. VRATIL, DAVID R. HANSEN AND ANTHONY J. SCIRICA, JUDGES OF THE PANEL

TRANSFER ORDER

Before the Panel is a motion brought, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407, by plaintiffs in the 100 actions listed on Schedule A and two additional actions for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings of these actions in the Northern District of Illinois or, in the alternative, the District of Minnesota. Lone defendant C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc. (CHRW) opposes the motion. After their initial submissions to the Panel, all parties filed a joint pleading with the Panel requesting transfer for the limited purpose of obtaining settlement approval in the Northern District of Illinois or, alternatively, the District of Minnesota.

On the basis of the papers filed and hearing session held (without oral argument), the Panel finds that these actions involve one or more common questions of fact, and centralization under Section 1407 in the District of Minnesota will serve the convenience of the parties and witnesses and promote the just and efficient conduct of this litigation. The actions involve similar allegations that certain employees of CHRW are entitled to compensation under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq. Centralization under Section 1407 is necessary in order to conserve the resources of the parties, their counsel and the judiciary, particularly with respect to settlement approval. We decline to circumscribe the breadth of the pretrial proceedings as requested by the parties, instead leaving such matters to the discretion of the transferee judge. Whenever the transferee judge deems remand of any

^{*} Judge Miller took no part in the decision of this matter.

Plaintiffs initially included 102 actions in their motion, but later amended the schedule to exclude the 28 Northern District of Illinois actions that were closed and pending transfer under 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a) at that time. Two of these actions remain in that status. Because all parties are represented by common counsel and have filed pleadings stating their positions before the Panel, 100 actions are encompassed by this order. The remaining two actions will be treated as potential tag-along actions. See Rules 7.4 and 7.5, R.P.J.P.M.L., 199 F.R.D. 425, 435-36 (2001).

claims or actions appropriate, procedures are available whereby this may be accomplished with a minimum of delay. See Rule 7.6, R.P.J.P.M.L., 199 F.R.D. at 436-38.

We are persuaded that the District of Minnesota is an appropriate transferee forum for this docket. This is the district in which approximately one-fourth of the actions are now pending. Also, the transferee judge to whom we are assigning this litigation has developed a familiarity with the issues, parties, and counsel involved in these actions through presiding over two related actions for the past five years.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407, the actions listed on Schedule A and pending outside the District of Minnesota are transferred to the District of Minnesota and, with the consent of that court, assigned to the Honorable Joan N. Ericksen for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings with the actions pending in that district and listed on Schedule A.

FOR THE PANEL:

Wm. Terrell Hodges Chairman

SCHEDULE A

MDL-1849 -- In re C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., Overtime Pay Litigation

Northern District of Alabama

Donna Eddy, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:06-4926 Jacqueline Burt, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-630 Brenda Mitchell, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-730

Eastern District of Arkansas

Tammy L. Gately, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 4:07-290

Central District of California

Mimi Vuong v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-1428 Nancy Austin, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 8:07-301 Kent Alles, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 8:07-571

Eastern District of California

Gladys Garcia, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:07-157 Scott D. Hyder, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:07-665

Northern District of California

Kimberly Elam, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 4:07-475

Southern District of California

Bryce A. Amburn, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:07-650

District of Colorado

Mari A. Danielson, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:07-602

Middle District of Florida

Natesha M. Hyde v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:07-208 Tracy L. Buglione, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:07-228

Southern District of Florida

Celeste A. Hernandez, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-60504 Maria Teresa Diaz, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:07-21033

Northern District of Georgia

Terri Kuvach, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:07-328 Lynn A. Amorose, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:07-951

Central District of Illinois

Heidi Michelle Poepsel v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:07-1101

Northern District of Illinois

Evelyn Sparks, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6461
Angela L. Jacobson v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6465
Anne K. Ciaglia, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6507
Joann M. McGill, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6510
Craig Bowen, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6516
Lynette DiNova, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6545
Joanna Elke, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6552
Roy Rogenic, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6553
Michael Blackburn v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6563
Sharon K. Dodson-McDonald, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6581
Amber Vandersommen, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6582
Leslie Nemelka, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6623
Ariel B. Crotty, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-6630

Southern District of Indiana

Catherine A. Wilcox v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:06-197

Southern District of Iowa

Arlene J. Murray, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 4:07-141

District of Kansas

Kimberly K. Bethel, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-2129 Lisa M. Quigley, et al v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 6:07-1063

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Eastern District of Louisiana

Morgan J. Wood, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-1269

Western District of Louisiana

Richard Cahn, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 5:07-776

District of Massachusetts

Cheryl D. Braithwaite, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:06-12278

Eastern District of Michigan

Carla M. Strugala v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 5:07-10767 Jennifer L. Alfano, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 5:07-11604

Western District of Michigan

Susan J. McGowan, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:07-361

District of Minnesota

Jamie L. Benner, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4640 Justin Accola, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4643 Jeffrey Cichosz, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4644 William F. Holmberg, Jr. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4645 Elizabeth Marianne Buck, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4646 Penny M. Cantazaro, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4647 Kathy Cota, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4648 Jill K. East, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4649 Kathleen L. Hambleton, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4650 Elizabeth Hopp v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4651 Joann F. Larson v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4652 Kelley S. Lyons, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4653 Kimberly M. Martineau, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4654 Sandra Steinmetz, et al. v.C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4655 John Gino Giovannoni v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:06-4960 Sally J. Dowden, et al., C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-89 Amelia M. Alfaro, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-90 Jennifer L. Alfano, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-251 Claudia Alicia Martinez, et al. v.C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-542 Jennifer N. Mcinnis v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-544

District of Minnesota (Continued)

Beth Shaw, et al v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-595
Shannon Davis v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-1119
Esther Nevarez, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-1563
Nora Hageman, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-1870
Patricia A. Parrish, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-1912
Shannon D. Anderson, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-2749
Christopher L. Sims, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 0:07-2878

Eastern District of Missouri

Heather Lee Markle, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 4:07-428

Western District of Missouri

Leslie D. Birdwell, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 6:07-3193

District of Montana

Jason S. Galloway v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 9:07-45

<u>District of Nebraska</u>

Sharon Haack v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 8:07-130

District of New Jersey

Christine M. Doto, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-1382

<u>District of New Mexico</u>

Dirk Keisesr, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:07-392

<u>District of Nevada</u>

Debra J. Wentworth v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:07-145

Northern District of New York

Laura J. Jeneault, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 5:07-656

Western District of New York

- Timothy W. Baierlein, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 1:07-182

 Western District of North Carolina
- LaToya R. McCants, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:07-252

 Northern District of Ohio
- Julie Gallagher, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 5:07-846

 Western District of Oklahoma
- Timothy J. Bumgarner, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 5:07-278

 <u>District of Oregon</u>
- Allison M. Cassie, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:07-333

 <u>Eastern District of Pennsylvania</u>
- Richelle Maki, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-1238

 Jennifer L. Walker, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-1355

 Western District of Pennsylvania
- Wallace Kip Guenther, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-495

 <u>District of South Carolina</u>
- Rodney Brewer, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:06-3595 Erika DeRoberts, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 6:07-958

District of South Dakota

- Angela K. Smoot v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 4:07-4038

 Eastern District of Tennessee
- Carolyn Baker Hall, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:07-46

Middle District of Tennessee

- Kari S. Johnson, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:07-454

 Western District of Tennessee
- Rhea L. Nadler, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-2228

 <u>Eastern District of Texas</u>
- Aaron Smith, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 4:07-1

 Northern District of Texas
- Stephanie Smith, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:07-409

 Western District of Texas
- Adelita Dickson, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 5:07-186

 District of Utah
- Jason K. Bergquist, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-262

 Eastern District of Virginia
- Thea Winterbottom, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 3:07-390

 Eastern District of Washington
- Kim M. Flowers, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-104

 Western District of Washington
- Wendy L. Ferger, et al. v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-705

 Eastern District of Wisconsin
- Kelly K. Hoell v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., C.A. No. 2:07-267

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INVOLVED JUDGES LIST MDL NO. 1849

IN RE C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., Overtime Pay Litigation

Hon. Henry Lee Adams, Jr. U.S. District Judge United States District Court 11-200 U.S. Courthouse 300 N. Hogan Street Jacksonville, FL 32202-4204

Hon. John R. Adams
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Hon. Lynn S. Adelman U.S. District Judge 204 U.S. Courthouse & Federal Bldg. 517 E. Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Hon. Joy Flowers Conti U.S. District Judge 5250 U.S. Post Office & Courthouse 700 Grant Street Pittsburgh, PA 15219

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Hon. Thomas M. Golden U.S. District Judge United States District Court 401 Madison Building 400 Washington Street Reading, PA 19601-3915

Hon. Joan B. Gottschall U.S. District Judge 2356 Everett McKinley Dirksen U.S. Cthse. 219 S. Dearborn Street Chicago, IL 60604

Hon. William T. Hart Senior U.S. District Judge Everett McKinley Dirksen U.S. Courthouse 219 South Dearborn Street Chicago, IL 60604

Hon. Joe L. Heaton U.S. District Judge 1210 U.S. Courthouse 200 Northwest 4th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Hon. Judith C. Herrera U.S. District Judge Peter V. Domenici U.S. Courthouse 333 Lomas Blvd., NW Suite 710 Albuquerque, NM 87102

INVOLVED JUDGES LIST MDL NO. 1849 8:07-cv-00130-JFB-TDT Doc # 39 Filed: 07/16/07 Page 10 of 15 - Page 10 # 249

Hon. Larry R. Hicks
U.S. District Judge
804 Bruce R. Thompson U.S. Cthse.
400 South Virginia Street
Reno, NV 89501

Hon. S. Maurice Hicks, Jr. U.S. District Judge 5101 United States Courthouse 300 Fannin Street Shreveport, LA 71101

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Hon. Susan Webber Wright
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IN RE C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., Overtime Pay Litigation

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Michael E. Kunz, Clerk 2609 James A. Byrne U.S. Courthouse 601 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19106-1797

Michael W. Dobbins, Clerk Everett McKinley Dirksen U.S. Courthouse 219 South Dearborn Street Chicago, IL 60604

Patricia L. Brune, Clerk 1400 U.S. Courthouse 222 N. John Q. Hammons Parkway Springfield, MO 65806 Patricia L. McNutt, Clerk 130 Howard H. Baker Jr. U.S. Courthouse 800 Market Street Knoxville, TN 37902

Patrick E. Duffy, Clerk P.O. Box 8537 Missoula, MT 59807-8537

Perry D. Mathis, Clerk 140 Hugo L. Black U.S. Courthouse 1729 5th Avenue North Birmingham, AL 35203

Richard W. Wieking, Clerk 400-S Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building 1301 Clay Street Oakland, CA 94612-5212

Robert D. Dennis, Clerk 1210 U.S. Courthouse 200 N.W. 4th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73102-3092

Robert H. Shemwell, Clerk 1167 U.S. Courthouse 300 Fannin Street Shreveport, LA 71101-3083

Robert M. March, Clerk U.S. Courthouse 333 Lomas Boulevard, N.W. Albuquerque, NM 87102

Robert V. Barth, Jr., Clerk U.S. District Court P.O. Box 1805 Pittsburgh, PA 15230-1805

Rodney C. Early, Clerk 304 U.S. Courthouse 68 Court Street Buffalo, NY 14202-1368

Ronald C. Weston, Clerk 452 Federal Building 110 Michigan Street, N.W. Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Sarah Thornton, Clerk Clerk's Office - Attn: Sherry Jones U.S. District Court 595 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 Sherri R. Carter, Clerk G-8 U.S. Courthouse 312 North Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Sherri R. Carter, Clerk Ronald Reagan Federal Bldg. & U.S. Courthouse 411 West Fourth Street Santa Ana, CA 92701-4516

Sheryl L. Loesch, Clerk U.S. District Court 300 North Hogan Street Suite 9-150 Jacksonville, FL 32202-4271

Sheryl S. McConnell, Clerk 740 Mark O. Hatfield U.S. Courthouse 1000 Southwest Third Avenue Portland, OR 97204-2902

Sofron B. Nedilsky, Clerk 362 U.S. Courthouse & Federal Building 517 East Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53202

Thomas M. Gould, Clerk 242 Clifford Davis Federal Building 167 North Main Street Memphis, TN 38103

W. Samuel Hamrick, Jr., Clerk 4290 Edward J. Schwartz Federal Building 880 Front Street San Diego, CA 92101-8900

William G. Putnicki, Clerk G-65 John H. Wood, Jr. U.S. Courthouse 655 East Durango Boulevard San Antonio, TX 78206

William T. Walsh, Clerk Martin Luther King, Jr. Fed. Bldg. & U.S. Courthouse 50 Walnut Street, 4th Floor Newark, NJ 07102

RULE 1.6: TRANSFER OF FILES

- (a) Upon receipt of a certified copy of a transfer order from the clerk of the transferee district court, the clerk of the transferor district court shall forward to the clerk of the transferee district court the complete original file and a certified copy of the docket sheet for each transferred action.
- (b) If an appeal is pending, or a notice of appeal has been filed, or leave to appeal has been sought under 28 U.S.C. §1292(b) or a petition for an extraordinary writ is pending, in any action included in an order of transfer under 28 U.S.C. §1407, and the original file or parts thereof have been forwarded to the court of appeals, the clerk of the transferor district court shall notify the clerk of the court of appeals of the order of transfer and secure the original file long enough to prepare and transmit to the clerk of the transferee district court a certified copy of all papers contained in the original file and a certified copy of the docket sheet.
- (c) If the transfer order provides for the separation and simultaneous remand of any claim, cross-claim, counterclaim, or third-party claim, the clerk of the transferor district court shall retain the original file and shall prepare and transmit to the clerk of the transferee district court a certified copy of the docket sheet and copies of all papers except those relating exclusively to separated and remanded claims.
- (d) Upon receipt of an order to remand from the Clerk of the Panel, the transferee district court shall prepare and send to the clerk of the transferor district court the following:
 - (i) a certified copy of the individual docket sheet for each action being remanded;
 - (ii) a certified copy of the master docket sheet, if applicable;
 - (iii) the entire file for each action being remanded, as originally received from the transferor district court and augmented as set out in this rule;
 - (iv) a certified copy of the final pretrial order, if applicable; and
 - (v) a "record on remand" to be composed of those parts of the files and records produced during coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings which have been stipulated to or designated by counsel as being necessary for any or all proceedings to be conducted following remand. It shall be the responsibility of counsel originally preparing or filing any document to be included in the "record on remand" to furnish on request sufficient copies to the clerk of the transferee district court.
- (e) The Clerk of the Panel shall be notified when any files have been transmitted pursuant to this Rule.